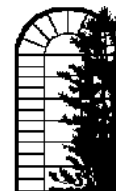


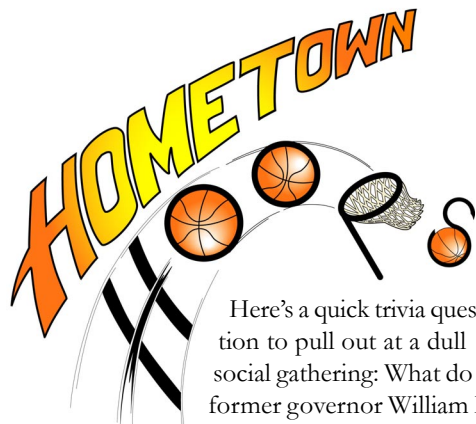
The Museum Insider



Volume 3, Issue 1

Newsletter of the Friends of Michigan History

Spring 2003



Here's a quick trivia question to pull out at a dull social gathering: What do

former governor William Milliken and Earvin "Magic" Johnson have in common?

The answer: They both took their high school basketball teams to state championships—Johnson with Lansing Everett in 1977 and Milliken with Traverse City High in 1940.

The two men are just part of the story told in *Hometown Hoops: High School Basketball in Michigan*, a new special exhibit now open at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing.

Hometown Hoops looks at the people who make high school basketball happen—players, parents, coaches, fans, ticket-takers, cheerleaders and others. Together, says museum exhibits curator Maria Quinlan Leiby, all these people help generate an excitement that can grip a community all year long.

"The entire Upper Peninsula celebrated in 1956 when U.P. teams swept the state championships in Class B through E," says Leiby. "And more recently, Flint residents took pride when their high school stars took the name Flintstones as they headed into college play."

Also in the exhibit, you'll discover the evolution of high school basketball since it was introduced in Michigan in the late 19th century. What began as a "girls' sport" became dominated by boys and then eventually became a sport avidly played and cheered on by both sexes. Along with the changing faces of players were changes in rules, equipment, uniforms and more.

Hometown Hoops is at the Michigan Historical Museum through October 12, 2003.

SECOND SATURDAY SERIES

Keep the following dates on your calendar for exciting events and activities related to *Hometown Hoops*.

♦ April 12 ♦ May 10 ♦ June 14

You'll have the opportunity to meet coaches and players, celebrate U.P. basketball and learn more about the "sole" of the game.

Keep up to date at www.michiganhistory.org.

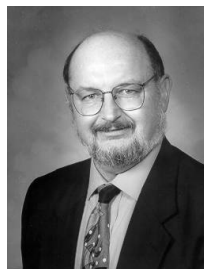
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Museum Director's 2002 Annual Report

I want to thank the hard-working staff, docents and other volunteers for achieving the accomplishments listed below. Without these dedicated folks—and you, a Friend of Michigan History—these accomplishments would not be so numerous or impressive.

We know that this year and the next will bring many challenges to the Michigan Historical Museum System and other services within state government. As you read our accomplishments from 2002, be assured that, no matter the challenges, we remain committed to our mission of sharing Michigan's rich history with the public.



Phil Kwiatkowski

THREE STEPS FORWARD -- The museum system has received interim approval for accreditation from the American Association of Museums. We hope to receive final accreditation later in 2003.

An operating agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources will bring our historical interpretation to the Tawas Point Lighthouse in East Tawas. The lighthouse is the twelfth site in our museum system.

We kicked-off "Forging Our Future," the \$1.8 million capital campaign to expand and renovate the Michigan Iron Industry Museum in Negaunee. Other goals are to restore the rare steam locomotive

Yankee and to further develop the site to realize its full potential as a community resource.

GRANTS & AWARDS -- We received more than \$175,000 in state and federal grants to develop a cultural resources plan for Walker Tavern and to plan for new exhibits at the Tawas Point Lighthouse and the former Father Marquette Museum

Our 2002 exhibit, *Schooner in the Sand*, won two awards—a Certificate of Commendation from the American Association for State and Local History and the Best Exhibit award from the Center for Great Lakes Culture at Michigan State University.

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Sign up now for day camp!

The Michigan Historical Museum is accepting registrations for sessions at the 2003 Summer Sizzles day camp.

The day camps offer a fun and factual look at history for children ages 9 through 12. New this year are two three-day camps, "The Boys and Girls of Summer," featuring a Lansing Lugnuts game, and "Grandma's Creative Crafts," where children can sample the basics of spinning, cross-stitch and other traditional handcrafts. Other day camp sessions explore history through archaeology, genealogy, storytelling, dance, art and music.

Half-day sessions are available in the morning or afternoon. There is a \$17 fee for each day at camp; Friends members receive a discount on these programs. For more information on the Michigan Historical Museum's day camps, telephone (517) 373-1905 or visit www.michiganhistory.org.

Annual Report continued

EDUCATING OUR YOUTH--We have expanded our mini-excursions for school groups, adding the curriculum-relevant themes of economics and core democratic values to our tour menu.

The Rendezvous Room on the first floor of the Michigan Historical Museum debuted to provide classroom and storage space for the museum's many education programs.

Our fall 2002 Underground Railroad program was a successful pilot for a slate of after-school programs that we began offering in January 2003.

Summer Sizzles day camp brought 250 participants ages 9 – 11 into the Michigan Historical Museum for traditional crafts and unique history experiences.

Fort Wilkins held four three-day Living History camps for kids to learn how to become costumed interpreters for the site.

Fayette Historic Townsite began a Future Historians group.

IN THE GALLERIES -- *Schooner in the Sand: Unlocking the Secrets of a Great Lakes Shipwreck* opened January 11, 2002, and ran through

August 18, 2002.

We built an almost life-size model of half the schooner, so visitors could understand how small the vessel actually was.

The museum's traveling version of the 1998 exhibit, *On the Air*, opened at its first venue in January 2002. The exhibit provides a look at the history of broadcasting in Michigan and gives students an opportunity to learn about broadcasting careers today.

We installed new interpretive content for the Father Marquette National Memorial, including five panels outlining Marquette's life in North America and a large map tracing his travels in the New World.

Successful gallery enhancement programs for *Schooner in the Sand* and *Houdini: Magician Among the Spirits* (including maritime music and skills and magic shows and workshops) were accomplished through strong cooperation between education staff and museum docents.

MANAGING COLLECTIONS -- We are in the process of taking a total system inventory—a monumental task. So far, we have completed collections inventories at Fayette Historic Townsite, Fort Wilkins, Michigan Iron Industry Museum and Mann House. We have inventoried 12,000 of approximately 200,000 artifacts housed here in the Lansing area.

Restoration has begun on the 18th-century British cannon that was pulled from the Detroit River. We anticipate debuting the restored cannon in our permanent exhibits in 2004.

INFRASTRUCTURE -- At the Mann House, we replaced two furnaces that were leaking carbon monoxide. We saved more than \$7,000 by mowing Walker Tavern in-house instead of by contract. DNR staff completed the reconstruction of a laborer's cabin at Fayette Historic Townsite.

SYSTEM STATS

513,000 visitors
727 artifact acquisitions
200 programs and events

New Friends continued

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Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Ragsdale
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The museum thanks the following organizations for their contributions:

Michigan Historical Center Foundation/ Friends of Michigan History - financial and other support

Eastern Michigan University - historic preservation field school at Fayette Historic Townsite, conservation of British cannon at Michigan Historical Museum

Michigan Technological University - archaeology field school at Michigan Iron Industry Museum

Northern Michigan University - historic site interpretation at Fort Wilkins

Mid-Michigan Radio Group - media sponsor for the *Thirty Years of Rock and Roll* special exhibit

Booth Newspapers - production and printing of 100,000 copies of the 2002 Michigan Historical Museum System booklet

New Friends continued

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FROM THE FRIENDS PRESIDENT

Over the past few months, the Friends of Michigan History and the Michigan Historical Center Foundation have entered into a new partnership—the goal of which is to enhance our efforts to assist the Michigan Historical Center in its fund-raising efforts. This is especially important in this time of funding cutbacks for all state agencies.

Direct support of museum and other center programs will be critical in the years ahead. Fortunately we have had the infrastructure in place for over a decade—through the Friends of Michigan History and the Michigan Historical Center Foundation. Now, through greater coordination of effort we will be able to ensure that everyone who wants to play a role in preserving, protecting, and interpreting Michigan history for generations to come—can do so!

Through this new partnership we have already doubled our Friends membership base. In 2003, we will continue to expand that base through a new member drive, direct appeals and an expanded distribution of Friends membership information at Michigan Historical Museum system sites across the Great Lakes State this summer.

Your support in the past has helped us conserve significant state historical records and provide quality museum public and educational programs. Your future support will guarantee that Michigan's past is not lost as we work to solve Michigan's present fiscal challenge.

Thank you!

— Francis R. "Bus" Spaniola

Join the Friends!

If your heritage is important to you, join the Friends of Michigan History today. With your membership, the Friends support the Michigan Historical Center in protecting, preserving and interpreting the state's past.

Your membership benefits include:

- A 10 percent discount at the Michigan Historical Museum Store
- Special invitations to exhibit openings
- *The Museum Insider* newsletter
- A one-year subscription to *Michigan History* magazine
- Discounts on museum classes and workshops
- Nationwide discounts through the Time Traveler program
- Tax benefits when you itemize your IRS tax return

For more information,
telephone (517) 373-1668.

Yes, I want to do my part to preserve Michigan's rich heritage.

Please reserve my membership in the Friends of Michigan History.

Name _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime telephone () _____

E-mail: _____

Membership: \$40.00

Payment method (check one):

Check enclosed, payable to Friends of Michigan History

VISA MasterCard ☐ Discover

Cardholder's name (please print) _____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Cardholder's signature _____

Complete this form, clip and mail to:

Friends of Michigan History, P.O. Box 70038, Lansing, MI 48907-0038

Friends of Michigan History
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Lansing, MI 48907

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The Museum Insider is produced by
Jennifer Sochor and Diana Paiz Engle
of the Michigan Historical Museum.

Friends of Michigan History **2002 Annual Report**

Now in its 14th year, the Friends of Michigan History continues its mission to preserve, protect and promote Michigan's heritage. The following highlights some of the accomplishments.

GROWING STRONG! -- The Friends enjoyed phenomenal growth as the group membership level more than doubled from its 2001 roster.

PROGRAM SUPPORT -- Provided sponsorship for the following Michigan Historical Museum events in 2002: Statehood Day, Michigan Week kickoff, Summer Sizzles day camps, Father Marquette National Memorial exhibit dedication ceremony and the Underground Railroad after-school education series.

PROGRAM INITIATIVES -- Planned and hosted an October 2002 program on the history of baseball featuring Dale Petroskey, president of the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, as the keynote speaker.

Planned and hosted the Michigan Historical Center's annual Veterans Day tribute and massing of the colors in November 2002.

Brunch, silent auction raise \$1,600 for museum ed programs

The Michigan Historical Museum hosted its First Annual Statehood Day Brunch and Silent Auction on Sunday January 26, 2003. Attendees enjoyed food, dance and music typical of when Michigan became a state in 1837, and bid high on generous donations from the following businesses and organizations in the greater Lansing area:



All Seasons Bistro
Boarshead Theater
Bravo's
Clearwater Spa
Court One
Creative Wellness

Dusty's Cellar
The English Inn
Friends of Michigan History
Hawk Hollow Golf Course
The Hyacinth House
Mitchell's Fish Market

The Mole Hole
Museum Store
New Aladdins Restaurant
P.F. Chang's China Bistro
Seasons
Wharton Center

We love e-mailing our Friends

In an effort to maintain a close connection with our patrons in the most cost-effective manner possible, the Michigan Historical Museum is making every effort to communicate via e-mail.

If you would like to receive Michigan Historical Museum communications (such as this newsletter and events info) via e-mail, take a moment to follow these easy steps:

- Use subject line: E-MAIL ME
- In the message, please include your name and postal address, so that we can make sure that you are transitioned from paper to electronic communication.
- Send to sochorj@michigan.gov

Be assured that your e-mail address will not be revealed to others nor will it ever be sold.